

WESTON BOARD OF HEALTH
Meeting Minutes for
Wednesday, April 12, 2023
11:31 AM – 1:20 PM
Zoom Meeting

Present: Laura Azzam – Chair
Dr. Jennifer Kickham – Member
Michele Fronk Schuckel MBA, BSN, RN – COVID-19 Response Manager, BOH Public Health Nurse
Kelly Pawluczzonek, RS, MS - Public Health Director
Beth Ann Boles, RS – Health Agent
Michelle Hubbard – Administrative Assistant, Meeting Minutes

I. Residents’ Concerns

Meeting called to order by Laura Azzam at 11:31 AM.

No resident concerns unrelated to agenda items.

II. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Jennifer Kickham made a motion to approve the minutes from March 2, 2023. Laura Azzam seconds. All in favor, the motion is carried.

III. Town Memorial Pool – Pool Code Variance

- The Parks and Recreation Department is writing to request a variance from 105 CMR 435.00 Minimum Standards for Swimming Pools (State Sanitary Code: Chapter V) for the Town Memorial Pool for aquatic features and new stairway- 105 CMR 435.05: Location; Structural Stability, Finish

Chris Fitzgerald and Sharon Locke spoke about the new features for the Memorial Pool. The Memorial Pool has always had a mushroom aquatic feature and a plastic staircase that was placed into the pool. The renovations to the pool (approved at Town Meeting) introduced an additional aquatic water feature similar to the mushroom and an additional permanent concrete stairway. The current state sanitary pool code does not include specific verbiage to address these aquatic features, but to call them projections. They propose to comply with the proposed new draft language for 105 CMR 435.00. If granted the variance for both the aquatic features and the new permanent staircase, the Recreation Department will ensure that the pool complies with the new Pool Code as it relates to these structures.

Dr. Jennifer Kickham made a motion to approve the projecting structures at the Memorial Pool including but not limited to the mushroom, splash over bucket, and new stairs. Laura Azzam seconds. All in favor, the motion is carried.

IV. Discussion on Board of Health support for Town Meeting Article 21 Appropriate for Water Tank Replacement

All three Board members supported the water tank replacement last year. Selectboard is asking for our support again for the water tanks prior to Town Meeting. Both Board members believe that this is something that the town needs. Laure believes it is critical for the health, safety, and wellbeing of the residents and would be happy to speak at Town Meeting if requested.

Dr. Jennifer Kickham made a motion to support the water tank replacement project. Laura Azzam seconds. All in favor, the motion is carried.

V. Approval of letter to businesses regarding the use of toxics effecting the Center Street Waste Water Treatment System located at 508 Boston Post Road- Jay Thrasher of Robial Water

Jay Thrasher spoke about the use of Quaternary Ammonium Compounds by those using the Center Street Waste Water Treatment Plant. This is causing the plant to become chemically unbalanced and is preventing the establishment of a proper environment for the bacteriologic decomposition of the waste water. He is requesting a letter be sent to the businesses involved, stating that The Board considers this activity to be creating a nuisance which is to injurious to the public health and voted to order all users of this WWTP to cease and desist the use of Quat's in all forms immediately. Kelly stated she can also add more to the letter because last year we approved a non-criminal disposition structure for fines, and nuisances would be on there. She also stated it might be important for the businesses to know that they are on the system, and if they break it, they may end up paying for it. Kelly recommends to the Board that we deem it as a nuisance and send out the letter.

Dr. Jennifer Kickham made a motion to declare this a nuisance with a strongly worded letter to follow to the appropriate businesses. Laura Azzam seconds. All in favor, the motion is carried.

VI. 51 Loring Road - Animal Permit– Animal Inspector Karen O'Reilly

Karen O'Reilly spoke about the goats at 51 Loring Road and that she believes it to be a public safety issue and she has concerns for the safety of the animals. A certified letter was sent to the owner of 51 Loring Ave., but he did not show up to the meeting. Karen stated there is an ongoing issue involving three goats that are owned by Sameh

Mesallum at 51 Loring Road. These animals have escaped, gone missing, and/or breached the property line on several occasions. Karen has responded to this property multiple times regarding these instances. On her first call out there in June 2022, they had gotten the goats a day earlier. They were living in his attached garage, and he would tie them up out front to eat his overgrown grass. The most serious call was from March 2023 that the goats were charging at and ramming people who were walking by. The male goat, with a full set of horns, had pinned Karen up against an SUV. Karen informed Sameh that his goats were dangerous and had injured multiple people. Sameh always seems agreeable to want to fix the situation, but it never seems to happen. At this point in time, he has not obtained an animal permit for the current year, and she does not believe he should be issued one under the current conditions.

A discussion was had between Board members, Kelly, and Karen about the possible solutions. They also discussed if the goats were to be rehomed, how does that work and where do the goats go. Kelly and Karen are also planning to update the animal regulations in town.

Dr. Jennifer Kickham made a motion to give 30 days to comply with Karen's three recommendations. If he does not comply within the 30 days, he will be called back for another hearing, and at a minimum, the male goat will need to be rehomed. The recommendations include:

- Contacting a professional fencing company providing an invoice and proof of work
- Have the goats evaluated by a livestock veterinarian to include vaccinations, horn, teeth, and feet care, and proper nutrition and diet be discussed and to provide documentation of veterinary service and records. Annual veterinary checkups required after
- Goats must be confined to the backyard pen and not allowed to roam free or to be tied up in the front of the property

Laura Azzam seconds. All in favor, the motion is carried.

VII. 27 Golden Ball – Septic Variance

- Requesting a Variance from the Weston Board of Health Local Regulation Chapter VI Sewerage Disposal Systems 2.5 Distance Requirements – No part of the structural components of a leaching facility shall be located within 100-feet of a wetland as defined in M.G.L. Chapter 131 section 40. Request to allow the soil absorption system and system components to be within 100 ft of the wetland.

The septic plan is changing, and Kelly has not been provided all of the updated information. Will be discussed at the next meeting.

VIII. Director's Monthly Review/Update – Kelly Pawluczonek RS, MS

Newton Wellesley Hospital is in support of and will contribute funding to Impact Melanoma, which was not going to be supported by the regional group. We are currently working on funding and the number of dispensers that we want. Conservation was looking to get 10 and Chris at the Memorial Pool was looking to get 3. Kelly had a conversation with Leon about this program and one of his thoughts as to reach out to sunscreen companies. Kelly reached out to Panama Jack and they gave her a deal on samples to possibly be displayed at the Board of Health counter as well as the Building Department.

Kelly had a meeting regarding Hidden in Plain Sight with the regional nurses, Laura Duff and Emily Amico, as well as with the school Health Director, Jayme Gaynor, school resource officers, and a couple principals, and the meeting went very well. Everyone seemed to be on board for the curriculum night in the fall and they are working on putting it together. The Police Department will also offer a car search during that program as well.

The occupant from 740 Boston Post Road has moved to Worcester and is no longer a Weston resident. Kelly is not sure what the family has planned for the house, but they did submit a demolition application with the fee, but other attached paperwork. We are unsure if they will do the work or if the house will go on the market.

We have regionalized with surrounding towns and did a capacity assessment of the needs for the seven towns. All of the towns were asked to submit paperwork to the state for review and the region will be going over this assessment with the state on Friday. Kelly showed a chart that outlines the programs that municipalities shared beyond what is required in the Performance Standards. Substance use is one of the largest programs. There is talk within the region of hiring a substance abuse coordinator. Kelly has spoken with the Police Department and they are for a substance use coalition as well as a regional coordinator and they will be having a meeting on this. Kelly is also setting up a meeting with Madeline Steinberg, the District Psychologist, and they will talk about HRS. Board of Health provides HRS with funding to assist families of students who are having mental health crisis or issues.

Kelly will be making edits to the rDNA Regulations and is still working on applications and some forms that she would like to see. Laura stated she had a couple of questions on them and will get back to Kelly with them.

IX. Public Health Nurse Update - Michele Fronk Schuckel, MBA, BSN, RN

Michele and Kelly have been in talks about vaccine season including dates, locations, and how to connect with people who will want a flu vaccine. We will be providing high dose vaccine to anyone 65 and older and will have what is presumed to be a

quadrivalent vaccine for the rest of the adults. We do not know where we will be as far as COVID-19 vaccines. We will approach the official end of the pandemic on May 11, 2023. In the past, the Board of health has done 230-250 flu vaccines, last year we did 300, and this year we have the hope to administer 500 doses. We have established dates at the library, we are going to set something up at the community center, home bound, and there is already a date set up for the 65+ at the COA. We plan to advertise the clinics heavily.

Michele has also been working on Mental Health First Aid. We will be offering a class to department heads and leaders within the community. Michele has a couple of dates arranged for May. The idea is that the more leaders we can train, the better off we will be. Each class can hold 15 people.

X. Next Meeting Date

May 10, 2023 at 11:30 AM via Zoom.

XI. Adjourn

Dr. Jennifer Kickham made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Laura Azzam seconds and adjourned the meeting at 1:20 PM.